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I think it is an outrage that the NAB is trying to tell me as a paying customer of XM what and what can not be offered on XM. We pay for these channels and services that XM offers. If the NAB wants to make XM free, only then should they have a voice in what is offered. I know they represent broadcasters of free public domain radio stations. XM is NOT FREE. I choose to pay for my ability to choose what I want to and not to have a group of group decide what I want to listen to. I would like to see XM continue to provide traffic and weather for local markets. I would gladly move back to local radio if local radio offered what XM has to offer. You can't get the types of radio stations here in Mid-Michigan. We have two and sometimes three stations of the same format. There are alone three country stations that do not offer the range of country music that XM offers in the country neighborhood. We have two stations that play top 40 music. And this is the same 10 songs over and over and over. It is enough to make you want to throw your radio out the window. How many times do you want to hear the same song? XM offers me much more to choose from its 100+ stations. I am not going back to regular local radio anytime soon. The only place that I am forced to listen to regular radio is in my office at work. If I was able to get an XM signal in my office I would be listening to XM there too.

In regards to local weather and traffic, why would I want to wait ten sometimes 15 minutes for a quick and useless traffic update. During this time I could be in a traffic jam that could have been easily avoided. I am not currently in a large enough market to have XM offer me local traffic and weather, but I have traveled to Detroit, which XM offers coverage for weather and traffic. XM's traffic and weather helps me plan my route and where to avoid. Thanks to local traffic reports I have been stuck in slow moving traffic in Detroit many times. It is nice to have a channel dedicated to traffic and weather for a local area. I want XM to continue offering local traffic and weather so maybe someday they will offer it in Mid-Michigan.

I strongly urge the FCC to reject the NAB's petition 04-160 against satellite radio and urge XM to continue to offer what people want have been lacking with local radio.

Thank you,  
Benjamin Skripnik